

A2 14. (Amended) The pump system of claim 10, wherein the tube member forms an angle of approximately 40° with the underside of the aircraft when the tube member is in the downward orientation.

A3 20. (Amended) A fluid conduit device comprising a substantially rigid tube member having a proximal end configured for connection to an aircraft in communication with an onboard tank, wherein the tube member is movable into a downward orientation for accessing a fluid source spaced away from the aircraft.

A4 29. (Amended) A method of loading water onto an aircraft comprising pumping fluid from a source through a tube member onto a tank on an aircraft, while the aircraft moves over the source, and directing the tube member rearward relative to the aircraft's direction of travel.

Please add the following claim:

A5 --33. A fluid conduit device for an aircraft, comprising a tube member having a proximal end and a distal end, the proximal end being configured for connection to an aircraft in communication with an onboard tank, the distal end having a fluid inlet configured to be entirely submerged in a fluid source while the aircraft translates over the fluid source.--

REMARKS

Prior to entry of this amendment, claims 1-32 were pending, with claims 1-3, 10-12, 15, 17-21, 23, 24, 29, 31, and 32 rejected, claims 5-9, 25-28, and 30 allowed, and claims 4, 13, 14, 16, and 22 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected based claim. By this amendment, applicants have amended claims 10, 14, 20, and 29 into allowable form,